

## **Title**

Vineland Social Maturity Scale: Indian Adaptation

## **Aim**

To measure social maturity of children and young adults

## **Introduction**

The Vineland Social Maturity Scale was originally devised by E.A. Doll in 1935 and since then this test is being used in many parts of the world. It proved itself to be a uniquely useful instrument in measuring social maturity of children and young adults. Since its first publication it has served the useful purpose of estimating the differential social capacities of an individual. The very first attempt to adapt the scale to Indian cultural conditions was done by Rev. Fr. Dr. A. J. Malin while working at the Nagpur child guidance centre. The scale is being used at many clinics, University departments and Institutions for the Mentally retarded. The present manual is only an extended version of the original manual. Recent experiments and Research studies (Goulet and Barclay; American Journal of Mental Deficiency, May 1963) between VSMS social age (SA) and the Stanford-Binet MA, Doll reported a correlation of  $+0.85$  and Patterson (1943) reporting a correlation of  $+0.96$  with the Binet scale on sample of normal children. This is a clear deflection of how social development and mental development are highly correlated.

Thorndike was the first psychologist to have part of three types of Intelligence and was the first psychologist to have first of three types of Intelligence, i.e., abstract intelligence, social Intelligence and mechanical intelligence. It is true that individuals vary in the amounts of these intelligence they possess. Some may have better abstract intelligence than the other two and some may have better social intelligence than the other two. However it is recognised by one and all that social intelligence or social maturity matters in a big way in life. This quality may be more easily identified as a social adaptability of the individual. A person who is below in social intelligence may prove himself unsuccessful in the day-to-day affairs in spite of possessing higher amounts of mechanical and abstract intelligences.

It is important to remember that this instrument just not only provides a measure of social age and social quotient. It will also indicate the social deficits and social assets in a growing child. With the presently popular social skills training procedures this information would go a long way in training the the retarded children to be socially self-sufficient.

Although the original vsms by Doll goes upto the level of XXV years + level, Nagpur adaptation stops at XV year level. As most of the clinical procedures of assessment and training are more often limited to the upper age limits of 15 years, it serves the purpose well. The only thing is that after the discovery of deficits and assets, the therapeutic programs should be so sorted out and tried that the child is made more sociable, more adaptable. The modern behaviour therapy procedures encompass a wide spectrum of such procedures and they should be suitably tried with their children.

## **Description of the test**

The Vineland Social Maturity Scale was developed by the American psychologist Edgar Arnold Doll. The test measures communication skills, general self help ability, locomotion

skills, occupation skills, self direction, self help eating, self help dressing, socialization skills.

The test is administered during an interview of the child with a parent or other person familiar with the person being assessed. It measures social competence, self-help skills, and adaptive behaviour from infancy to adulthood. It is used in planning for therapy and/or industrialized instruction for persons with mental retardation or emotional disorders. The Vineland Scale, which can be used from birth upto the age of 15, consists of 89-items for interview with a parent or other primary caregiver. Personal and social skills are evaluated in the following areas: daily living skills ( general self help, eating, dressing); communication ( listening, speaking, writing); Motor skills ( fine and gross, including locomotion); socialization ( interpersonal relationships, play and leisure); occupational skills; and self direction. The test is untimed and takes 20-30 minutes. raw scores are converted to an age equivalent score and a social quotient (SQ):

$$SQ = SA/CA \times 100$$

### **Materials required**

VSMS question booklet  
pen or pencil

### **Subject's profile**

Name - Moksh  
Age - 7 years  
Gender - Male

### **Procedure and Administration**

#### **Preparation:**

The Apparatus was kept ready. A comfortable environment setting was ensured.

#### **Rapport:**

The referred was formed by communicating with the subject. privacy and security of the subjects profile was insured.

#### **Instruction:**

The subject was asked to answer the questions according to the age with honesty.

#### **Scoring:**

The raw score was calculated based on the subject's answers. 1 was given if the subject was able to do the task, 0.5 if he was able to do it with help. Adding up the scores, and then finding out social age from appendix-II of VSMS manual.

Compute social quotient (SQ) by dividing SA by CA and multiplying by 100.

#### **Interpretation:**

After calculating raw score we got 6 years 12 months, equals to 84 months, or 7 years.

$$SQ = SA/CA \times 100$$

$$SQ = 7/7 \times 100 = 100$$

We got SQ of 100.

**Conclusion:**

Moksh is a very social, helpful child. He tries to do most of the things himself. according to the norms for profile analysis, we got SHD for 84 months.

SHD = self-help dressing